

THE BELHAM BUZZ

ISSUE 136 | 20 SEPTEMBER 2019

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HEAD OF SCHOOL'S NOTE

As Article 12 on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states, every child has the right to an opinion and for it to be listened to and taken seriously. With this in mind, all pupils will now be able to share their ideas for how to improve the school with a School Council representative. Of course, there are plenty of opportunities for children to air their views but a School Council is unique in that the children themselves set the agenda for meetings and really have a chance to make their mark. Please take a moment to read the attached poster which outlines what your child will need to do if they would like to nominate themselves to represent their class.

It was the perfect end to a beautiful September day last Friday as various members of the Belham community came together for the official opening of the Laneway. And what a difference a year makes! For those who remember the concrete covered lane as it was, the contrast is quite staggering. Now we have a lovely space in which our pupils can enjoy a little pocket of nature amongst all the hustle and bustle of city life. Thank you again to all of the parents involved and to Harriet Bailey for organising last week's event.



PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We passionately believe that school trips and visits support and enrich our curriculum. In order for them to take place we need parent volunteers wherever possible. If you see any trips or visits in your child's Schools Buddy calendar that you may be able to help with please email the office.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

We are hosting a MacMillan Coffee Afternoon on Friday 27 September from 2.00 – 3.00pm in the Hall. It will be a great opportunity to catch up with other parents at the beginning of the term. Our new catering company, Principals will be providing cakes for you to sample. All donations will go to MacMillan cancer Support. No booking required.

Creative reflection time next week will be about:
NATIONAL DOODLE DAY

KEY DATES

Tuesday 24 September

Year 5 trip to Battle Abbey. Packed lunch required

Wednesday 25 September

Balfe's Bikes in school to service children's bikes. All bikes welcome

Friday 27 September, 2.00pm onwards

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon, information to follow on Schools Buddy

Monday 30 September

Year 3 Portrait workshop (in school, no packed lunch needed)

TERRACYCLE

Exciting news! As part of our efforts to cut down on single-use plastics, we have joined a Terracycle programme to recycle used plastic writing materials such as pens, felt tips and highlighters. This means that when our pens and felt tips run out, they will be given a new life as garden furniture and equipment! In addition, once we have collected 15kg we will receive 1p in return for every writing instrument we send for recycling!

We want this collection to serve the whole Belham community, so please feel free to bring in any used writing instruments you may have from home or work. There will be a large box placed near the main office, accessible during the school's opening hours. The following items can be recycled through this programme:



Accepted waste in this programme: All writing instruments (except for wooden pencils and chalk) are accepted: Any brand of pen, felt tip, highlighter, marker, correction fluid pot, correction tape, mechanical pencil and eraser pen regardless of their composition.

Note that we do not accept glue sticks, erasers, rulers or other cutting objects that could disturb the recycling process. Please be careful not to include any of those items.

Looking forward to sending off our first box!

Main Committee Members: Patrick Murray, Michelle Hardy, Richard Knowles

Contact Email: friendsofbelham@gmail.com

FoB NEWS

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Don't forget Reception parent's welcome drinks on Thursday 26th September!

FoB will be holding welcome drinks at the Victoria Inn on Thursday 26th September from 8pm.

Please come along to meet other parents and to meet us!

This will give you the opportunity to find out more about what we do and what a class rep does.

Each class within the school will have ideally 2 class representatives. Please see the FoB page on the school's website for details of your class representative - <http://www.thebelhamprimaryschool.org.uk/>. The class representatives are the first point of contact for any event ideas or questions. Class representatives do not act as parent-teacher liaisons regarding child, school or teaching matters.

We are looking for 3 reps in total, 2 from Wool and 1 from Felt in Reception. If you would like to become a class representative/ know more about it, please contact:

michellehardy1975@gmail.com or

patrickjamesmurray@gmail.com

Autumn Cake Sale – Friday 18th October

Cake sale call out

It's Year 3's turn to sell the cakes on Friday 18th of October.

We need your fab children to sell their socks off and raise lots of money for the school.

If your child wants to volunteer, they need a responsible adult to be with them from 2.45pm until 4pm. One adult can be responsible for 2 children (as long as the parent has emailed consent to school).

Please email Ginnie at ginb27@hotmail.com with your child's name, class and your name.

Annual General Meeting and parent social - Wednesday 6th November at the school

This year we are going to combine our AGM with a parent social.

The first half of the evening will be the FoB committee presenting our activities and monies raised over the previous year and what purchases or contributions we have made on behalf of the school. The second half will be the opportunity to chat with other parents and us with a bar!

FoB NEWS

FoB Committee

Michelle, Pat & Rich will be stepping down from the FoB main committee in November.

We have been in the positions for two years as main committee members. As with the previous committee, it feels like a two year rota is healthy to keep ideas fresh & give other people a chance to run the FoB.

As our school is so new, the previous committee and this one have worked hard to get a strong foundation and ways of working, along with a fantastic, dedicated strong wider committee. We now have in place a yearly calendar that the next committee can use as a starting point for their new planning/events.

The positions that will be open are:

- Chair/Vice Chair or two Co Chairs
- Treasurer
- Secretary

As the AGM is in November, we will continue to plan all the Autumn terms activities and set the dates for the big FoB events for the rest of the year.

Please let us know if you are interested in any of the roles and we would be more than happy to chat though them.

You can also attend FoB meetings (once a month) & shadow us for this term to see how everything works.

Please email friendsofbelham@gmail.com if you are interested & would like to know more.

SAVE THE DATE!

FoB camping

Following the success of the last 2 years camping weekend, we have booked Friday 19th, Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st June for camping.

As in previous years, it will be at the South London Scout Centre, Grange Lane, SE21 7LH.

Further information will be given closer to the time.

Christmas Fair - Saturday 30th November

It's NEVER too early to start talking about Christmas! This year it will be on Saturday 30th November. Please put the date in your diary.

THE FRIENDS' FRIENDLY



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Contact Email: friendsofbelham@gmail.com

Join The FoB Facebook Group

Page will provide updates and information on upcoming FoB events, together with providing a central parent/carer online forum for Belham related discussions.

Please do join and use to grow our group community!

To join go to the link below and request to join.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/355496675010142/>

Other Ways Raise Money

Koru Kids

Earn £100 for our school - with a Koru Kids after school nanny. They have lots of nannies in our area - if you get a nanny using the code SC1BELHAM they will donate £100 to the school.

Find out more at: <https://www.korukids.co.uk/refer-school>

Easyfundraising

If you're doing any summer shopping, please use #easyfundraising and raise **FREE DONATIONS** for Friends of Belham School - London on everything from days out to summer clothes, gardening and home improvement, food and drinks and more! Groupon, ASOS, Next, M&S, Waitrose, GO Outdoors and over 3,700 other shops and sites will all donate and it really makes a difference to us so please take a look!

Sign-up using our unique link

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-belham/

Company Match Funding

Last year we raised £1400 for FoB funds through match funding.

An increasing number of large companies operate a match funding scheme whereby they "match" charity fundraising undertaken by their employees.

These organisations set aside millions of pounds to fund such schemes and are more than happy to support their staff in raising money for charities of their choice.

What is match funding?

Match giving, or match funding, is a simple way to maximise the fundraising efforts of individual volunteers. It is an informal, but corporate, arrangement between a company and an employee.

Usually, a company pledges to match a sum of money relating to the amount the employee has either raised (volunteered to help at an event) or donated to a charity.

If you think the company that you work for is happy to fund match please get in touch with us as it would be a huge boost to the money we can raise for the school.

Please email Friends Belham friendsofbelham@gmail.com